



COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON 25

B-102300

CONFIDENTIAL.

April 25, 1951.

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[Redacted]

Central Intelligence Agency

Washington 25, D. C.

[Redacted]

Document No. _____
Review of this document by CIA has
determined that:
☒ CIA has no objection to declass
☐ It contains information of CIA
interest that must remain
classified at TS S C
Authority: HR 70-2
☐ It contains nothing of CIA interest
Date 10 MAR 1981 Reviewer [Redacted]

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Reference is made to your letter of March 23, 1951, transmitting a voucher stated in favor of an employee of the Central Intelligence Agency in the amount of \$97, representing a deduction from the employee's travel expense account covering the period October 12 to November 2, 1950. You request a decision whether the voucher may be certified for payment in view of the circumstances as hereinafter set forth.

The employee in question was authorized to travel from Washington, D. C., to [Redacted] and return, by means of Government airplane as well as commercial air transportation. It is indicated that a United States Air Force plane was utilized for the outgoing travel to [Redacted] but that such plane was not available for the return trip, thus requiring the use of commercial transportation by the traveler for his return to the United States.

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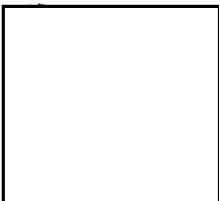
The record shows that the employee completed his official duty in [Redacted], on October 28, 1950, but elected to proceed to [Redacted] for personal reasons, before returning to Washington, his official headquarters in the United States. The

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tickets for such travel were obtained by means of Government trans-

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portation request at a cost of \$65, regular first class airplane fare from [] and \$450, tourist class airplane fare from [] to Washington, D. C.

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While the total amount expended by reason of the circuitous travel (\$515) was less than what would have been incurred for regular first class airplane fare (\$541) had the employee returned direct to Washington, from [], an administrative deduction of \$97 was made upon the basis that, since the employee's actual air travel consisted of 89 percent tourist class and 11 percent regular first class, he could only be allowed 11 percent of the regular first class air fare from [] to Washington, and 89 percent of the tourist fare between the same points or a total of \$418.

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The above computation apparently was predicated upon section 10 of the Standardized Government Travel Regulations as it existed prior to October 1, 1950, as follows:

"10. Indirect-route travel.--In case a person travels by an indirect route for his own personal convenience, the extra expense will be borne by himself and reimbursement for expenses will be based only on such charges as were actually incurred, not to exceed what would have been incurred by the most economical usually traveled route."

Under the above regulation, if an employee traveled by a circuitous route and used a cheaper class of transportation, such as railway coach instead of Pullman, he was not entitled to reim-

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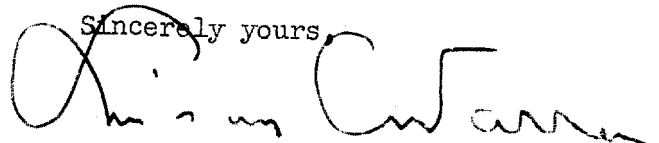
bursement of expenses incurred in excess of the cost of travel on the direct route by the cheaper class of transportation. See 22 Comp. Gen. 1109 at page 1111.

Section 10 of the travel regulations, as amended, effective October 1, 1950, omits the language previously appearing therein stating that "reimbursement for expenses will be based only on such charges as were actually incurred" and now provides that in case of travel by an indirect route "reimbursement for expenses will be based only on such charges as would have been incurred by a usually traveled route."

25X1 The travel in the instant case was performed after October 1, 1950, and the record indicates that, if he had returned directly from [] first class transportation would have been used. Hence, the employee is entitled to reimbursement of transportation expenses actually incurred, not to exceed the cost to the Government had he returned direct from [], to his official headquarters in the United States by first class accommodation. Accordingly, the voucher is returned herewith and may be certified for payment, if otherwise correct.

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Sincerely yours,



Comptroller General
of the United States

Enclosure